

Message from the Director



Welcome to the very first issue of DAS News, the Division of Addiction Services' quarterly newsletter. My plan is to regularly publish business announcements and news updates, and to keep substance abuse prevention and treatment providers and advocates aware of ongoing DAS issues and events.

The focus of this edition is the Needle Exchange Treatment Initiative (NETI). Through NETI funding, DAS issues contracts for mobile medication, housing, enhanced sub-acute medical detoxification, and evaluation. While New Jersey is the 50th state to permit needle exchange, we will be in the forefront with providing state of the art treatment services to clients.

The NETI incorporates important elements of the DAS' vision to develop a regionally accessible, full continuum of care that is client centered and recovery oriented. In particular, NETI expands use of the latest pharmacotherapeutic therapies for opiate addiction. This system of care is also trying to provide integrated services for people with co-occurring substance use and mental health disorders, and widespread use of best practices (driven by data and focused on client centered outcomes). An important aspect in developing New Jersey's system of care is the full integration of prevention and treatment services along the continuum of recovery.

I also want to welcome Dr. Donald Hallcom as the New Service Director for Prevention and Training Services. Dr. Hallcom brings a wealth of knowledge about prevention, and he will be a great asset to our team, providing critical leadership on the SPF-SIG (see page 2).

On a final note, I thank all those involved in the New Jersey Access Initiative (NJAI), as the program closed as our federal grant monies are expended. I am proud to say that over 6,000 individuals were served through this federal grant opportunity! "Recovery Mentors" have become an important aspect of the system of care, and reimbursement for these services will be incorporated into DAS initiatives.

I look forward to talking with you at the next Quarterly Provider Meeting!

New Service Director at DAS

In late November, Dr. Donald Hallcom joined DAS as the New Service Director for Prevention and Training Services. Dr. Hallcom has twenty years of health and human services experience. Most recently, he was the Director of Community Services at a large federally qualified health center in Maine. Concurrently, he was Director of a Drug Free Community Support Program that supports prevention coalitions and programs throughout northern Maine. He also directed a large, multi-site school-based alcohol abuse reduction project funded by the US Department of Education Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools.

Treatment Update: Needle Exchange Treatment Initiative

The Bloodborne Disease Harm Reduction Act (P.L. 2006, c.99) dedicated \$10 million to develop new programs that can provide access to recovery for injecting drug users not currently in drug treatment. Responding to this legislation, DAS developed a comprehensive Needle Exchange Treatment Initiative (NETI) with community-based mobile outreach treatment resources that will offer accessible treatment for persons who take advantage of the clean needle exchange outreach teams (being established by the Department of Health and Senior Services).

The NETI will bring needed access with drug treatment and recovery services to areas of the state where large numbers



of persons suffering with the disease of drug addiction remain outside the treatment system.

These mobile medication units will allow us to go directly to where the services are most needed," DHS Commissioner Jennifer Velez said "This pilot treatment program will be one of the most comprehensive and progressive in the country, allowing us to help guide more people on the path to recovery."

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Our DAS Mission

The Division of Addiction Services promotes the prevention and treatment of substance abuse and supports the recovery of individuals affected by the chronic disease of addiction. As the Single State Agency for substance abuse, DAS is responsible for regulating, licensing, monitoring, planning and funding substance abuse prevention, treatment and recovery support services in New Jersey. To achieve its mission, DAS provides leadership and collaborates with providers, consumers, and other stakeholders to develop and sustain a system of client-centered care that is accessible, culturally competent, accountable to the public, and grounded in best practices that yield measurable results.



Advisory Committee to the Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Program for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Disabled

- This is an open, public committee that meets quarterly. The last meeting was held on December 12, 2007 at the Library for the Blind and Handicapped. The advisory committee consists of five members who are either Deaf, hard of hearing, or disabled, two members of the public with an interest in issues relating to alcohol and drug abuse and one representative from the following entities: the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, Developmental Disabilities Council, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and DAS (the DAS Disability Specialist, representing the DAS Director, attends each meeting).

DAS sets aside annual funding to provide substance abuse programs for individuals who are Deaf, hard of hearing, or have a disability. Additionally, Public Law 1995, Chapter 318, established the "Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Disabled." For information, contact 609-984-3316 (voice) or 609-292-6735 (TTY).

Request for Proposal (RFP) / Funding

Needle Exchange Treatment Initiative

As part of the Bloodborne Disease Harm Reduction Act, DAS awarded close to \$5 million to the John Brooks Recovery Center and Paterson Counseling Center to provide mobile medication, case management, outreach and office-based services in areas of Atlantic City, Camden, Trenton and Paterson.

DAS also awarded \$871,000 each to Resources for Human Development and the John Brooks Recovery Center to develop supportive housing services for 62 clients engaged in the NETI. Service providers will manage two intensive supportive housing teams, which will include providing permanent housing.

An RFP for Sub-Acute Medically Managed Detoxification start-up costs was recently issued by DAS, and the evaluation component of the NETI will be issued shortly.

Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Disabled Funding

Two awards were made on October 3, 2007 to Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey, totaling approximately \$70,000. Services to be provided in Spring 2008 include one-day conference pertaining to providing access to addiction treatment for people with disabilities, as well as conducting one round of coursework which includes all six courses specific to the requirement for the Addiction and Disability Specialist Certificate.

In addition, proposals were received in response to a \$350,000 RFP for this population. Services will include communication access, residential and outpatient treatment services, and the development of an educational access program. Awards are expected shortly.

From Cultural Competence to Health Literacy: A new way of seeing and talking about our work at DAS

In Summer 2005, DAS hosted a statewide conference on cultural competence to bring together community and addictions field stakeholders that included the sharing of 'best practices in cultural competence' as it relates to organizational development, community outreach, treatment quality and access issues. Building on that success through the collaboration of many New Jersey treatment leaders, DAS continues to look for ways to expand the conversation on client focused resources that communities, agencies and interested

individuals can use -- to improve understanding of current challenges in the addictions field. Health literacy, a person's ability to understand, navigate and advocate for their health needs, is a promising public health education approach that may complement current efforts to promote client centered services and increase choice.

In 2008, DAS will be gathering resources and information on health literacy, which includes the domains of basic literacy,

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Provider Network News

DAS currently has five initiatives providing a full continuum of care to clients through a 'Fee-for-Service Network': Drug Court (DC), Driving Under the Influence Initiative (DUII), South Jersey Initiative (SJI), and Work First Substance Abuse Initiative (WFSAI). These initiatives provide a full-continuum of care through a network of licensed providers who are reimbursed for services on a fee-for-service basis. Additionally, the Department of Corrections and the State Parole Board provide funding for a fee-for-service network for the Mutual Agreement Program (MAP), which provides Intensive Outpatient (IOP) and Long-Term Residential Services (LTR) for parolees and inmates who qualify.

All licensed agencies, in good standing, are eligible to participate in these fee-for-service initiatives. If your agency has a DAS license and would like to submit a Network Application for eligibility to provide services for DC, DUII, MAP, SJI or WFSAI, contact Geralyn Molinari, Network Program Manager, at geralyn.molinari@dhs.state.nj.us or by phone at 609-826-5416. All agencies will be required to attend training prior to receiving referrals.

Health Literacy *(continued from page 3)*


science literacy, civic literacy and cultural literacy. DAS, through our newsletter and other participatory/sharing forums, will continue to build on themes and resources to help recovery and prevention efforts that impact on client-centered services, including:

A Health Literacy Approach to Addictions Services Outcomes

Client Centered Approach	Basic Literacy	Science Literacy	Civic Literacy	Cultural Literacy
Prevention	Readable materials Access to information	Understanding risk Understanding health consequences of addiction	Advocating for prevention resources Awareness of policy issues	Sharing a vision of partnership and inclusion Sharing cultural perspectives on addictions as a problem
Recovery	Overcoming barriers to understanding public health messages Understanding treatment options	Clarifying the role of medicine in recovery Understanding how treatment helps	Raising awareness for resource needs to ensure recovery continuum Reducing stigma	Supporting many paths to recovery Understanding culture as an asset in recovery

Adapted from: Advancing Health Literacy: A Framework for Understanding and Action, 2006

DAS Information Central

DAS Service Unit	 Who to call for assistance:	What we do:
Administrative Services	Lewis Borsellino Service Director Phone: (609) 984-3212	Contracting - Audits - Budgets
Director's Office	Raquel Mazon Jeffers Division Director Phone: (609) 292-5760	Oversight of DAS Public Information - Open Public Records Act Requests Human Resources
Licensure and Supportive Housing	Harry Reyes Service Director Phone: (609) 292-6587	Licensing - Supportive Housing
Planning, Research and Information Systems	Suzanne Borys Program Manager Phone: (609) 984-4050 Charles Crowley, Coordinator Systems Analysis and Development Phone: (609) 633-9810	NJ-SAMS - Needs Assessment - Research
Policy and Special Initiatives	Beverly Cribbs Service Director Phone: (609) 984-3315	Policy and Regulations Development - Legislative Concerns - New Initiatives - Intradepartmental Relations
Prevention and Training Services	Donald Hallcom Service Director Phone: (609) 292-4414	SPF-SIG - Workforce Development - Strengthening Families
Treatment Services	Vicki Fresolone Service Director Phone: (609) 292-7233	Criminal Justice - County Initiatives - DAS Network Co-occurring - Intoxicated Driving Program - Adolescent and Women's Services
Quality Assurance	Mollie Greene Deputy Director Phone: (609) 292-9068	Monitoring - Complaints, Reporting and Investigations - Needle Exchange Treatment Initiative—Consumer Advocate

Addictions Resources

Addictions Hotline Number: 1-800-238-2333
 Consumer/Provider Complaint Line Number: 1-877-712-1868
 For help with all your health and social service needs, dial
 "211"
 NJHELPS.com
 DAS Treatment Directory:
<http://samsdev.rutgers.edu/dastxdirectory/txdirmain.htm>

Development Center

Mark your calendars:
Quarterly Provider Meeting
 February 21, 2008, 1 - 4 p.m.
 Mercer County Community College Conference Center
 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor Campus
 To receive e-mail updates with funding announcements and other
 information, send an email to trina.jordan@dhs.state.nj.us
 and include your title, agency and postal address.